



# Whitstable Junior School

*Learning today for life tomorrow*

## Week ending 15 March 2024



### A message from Ms Kent

Dear parents/carers

It has been a week for reflection at WJS. The incredibly sad news of Jess at the weekend has shaken our community. We take some solace in the fact that Jess died peacefully and pain free. However, this doesn't take away from the huge loss and sadness. The school community has come together to show great kindness to each other this week. The support to both children and staff will continue for as long as is needed. Please do reach out to us if your child is struggling but not coming forward for support at school.

Our Year 6's are looking forward to enrichment week. I would like to take this opportunity to give a huge shout out to all of the staff who have helped make this happen. I am sure you all appreciate the amount of work and planning these trips take. I look forward to hearing about all of the adventures the children experience on their return.

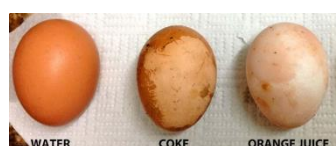
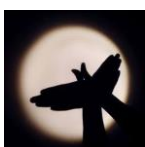
The wonderful PTFA raised an amazing £407 from the Mother's Day shop!

I wish you all a peaceful weekend,  
Sarah Kent



### What have the children been up to this week?

In maths this week, **Year 3** have been learning about mass, weighing different objects in grams and kilograms. They have also started writing a sequel to *The Egyptian Cinderella* in English and thinking about how Rhodopis will continue her journey! The children have also enjoyed dodge ball and rugby in P. E. and have been learning more fascinating facts about light and shadow in science. **Year 4** have been reading creation myths from ancient China. They have created some wonderful sentences describing the incredible Pan Gu and the kind-spirited Nu Wo. In maths they have continued to explore and understand fractions and start converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions. In science, both classes completed an experiment to find the effect of a variety of drinks on teeth (using egg shells). Watching the cups develop over the week has been fascinating (and disgusting in some cases)! **Year 5** have been busy understanding thousandths as a decimal and its equivalents in maths. They have been ordering decimals and starting to round them to the nearest tenth and whole. The children have also spent the week writing their news report about the Trojan war. There is definitely a future journalist or two in the year group! In Science the children have been looking at, or revising, reversible changes and explaining what they are and how they happen. **Year 6** have been exploring reflections in science, linking our maths skills but looking at angles of reflection. As part of their history, they have been riding the turbulent roller coaster of religion during the Tudor period and the changes made by the different monarchs. They are now getting into the story of Orange's in No Man's land, using evidence from the text when forming opinions about characters and exploring the powerful language that Elizabeth Laird uses to build up atmosphere.

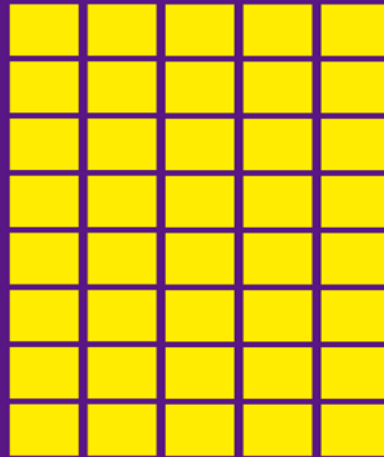


## Times Table Fact of the Week

$$5 \times 8 = 40$$



$$40 \div 5 = ?$$



$$8 \times 5 = 40$$



$$40 \div 8 = ?$$

## Attendance

**Thank you for ensuring your child is on time and ready to learn. Gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am. Please ensure your child is at school and on time every day.**

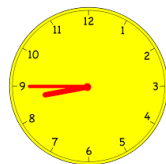
If your children are late, please accompany them to the office rather than dropping at the front gate. The school has to log a reason for lateness which should come from parents/carers and not the children.

If your child is going to be absent, please call the school office with explanation preferably before 8.50 am and then we won't have to disturb you. You will need to call each morning of absence.

Children do not need to be absent with minor coughs, cold and sore throats. The school is happy to administer paracetamol, ibuprofen and anti-biotics if required.

Missing the odd day of school doesn't matter and can't do much harm? Taking a short amount of time away from school can be a problem. Your child might fall behind in their work and not be able to catch up. If there are gaps in their knowledge they will suffer when school assessment time comes around. Other problems could be caused too; children who miss school are missing out on the social side of things which can affect their ability to make and keep friends and it can dent their confidence to attempt new work and work alongside others. Let's work together to give every child the best possible outcomes!

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



**We Believe  
in Making  
a Difference**



## PE days for Term 4 & netball fixtures

**A reminder that children should wear their school jumper over their PE kits and not skins. PE days for Term 4 starting 19 February unless otherwise informed by text.**

- 3B** Thursday and Friday/**3O** Monday and Tuesday
- 4JW** Wednesday and Friday/**4T** Monday and Friday
- 5L** Tuesday and Friday/**5H** Monday and Thursday
- 6M** Wednesday and Thursday/**6H** Monday and Tuesday



### Netball Fixtures

- Tuesday 23 April – Bysing Wood – return time 4.15pm – **home**
- Monday 29 April – Hernhill – return time 4.45pm **away**
- Tuesday 7 May – Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed – return time 4.30pm – **away**
- Monday 13 May – Boughton-under-Blean – return time 4.45pm – **away**



## Lower School Swimming Term 5

**3B** 16/23/30 April and 14/21 May – 2.00pm – 2.30pm  
**3O** 16/23/30 April and 14/21 May – 2.30pm – 3.00pm  
**4T** 15/22/29 April and 13/20 May – 2.00pm – 2.30pm  
**4JW** 15/22/29 April and 13/20 May – 2.30pm – 3.00pm



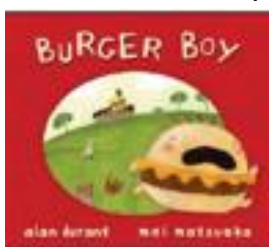
## Additional messages & After School Clubs

**Gilwell Park Arrangements:** At last, the Year 6 Residential is only a few days away and we wanted to share with you some last-minute reminders and arrangements;

- Children will need a packed lunch on Wednesday. One can be provided by the school if required and the office notified
- Please refer to the kit list which will be emailed out again to parents of children attending for reference
- On the morning of Wednesday 20 March, please arrive at the normal time, at the normal entrance
- Children can take their suitcase to the hall and then go to class as normal
- Should your child have any medication, please go with your child to the hall where Miss Lay will be ready to collect it and record any details
- If you cannot be there in the morning, and you have medication to provide - this can be given to the office before the trip
- Please make sure that all medication is in a sealed container/envelope with name and dosage
- We are not due to leave until 10 am so parents/carers in the past have waited by the library to wave their children goodbye, but this won't be until 10 am
- We will text you when we have arrived to let you know we have arrived safely
- Please check Facebook for photos

**After school clubs:** A letter with information on afterschool clubs which will run in terms 5 & 6 will be sent out next week along with details of how to book. Please note that every effort is made to ensure clubs run every week and children are expected to attend all sessions. If your child is unable to attend a session, you must contact the office in advance and write a note in their contact book. If more than two sessions are missed, the place may be re-allocated to the next on the waiting list. Thank you for your understanding.

**Books by Alan Durant:** Alan Durant is the author who runs our A.I.M High Workshop. Alan's work was featured in the BBC series English Express which won a Children's Bafta Award. Some books by him are below and will be on sale the day of the A.I.M High Workshop on Thursday 21 March.



## Letters and email

If you have a message, please send it to the office and it will be passed onto your child's teacher / dealt with as appropriate. [Click here for the website where you will find all letters.](#)

information

## Dates – Terms 4, 5 & 6

**W/C Monday 18 March – Year 6 Enrichment Week**

**Wednesday 20 March – Quick Stick Hockey Competition – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 – Details TBC**

**Thursday 21 March – Poetry Day – Alan Durant AIM High Workshop**

**Wednesday 20 March – Year 6 residential trip to Gilwell Park**

**Tuesday 26 March – Parents/carers workshop for reading strategies – The Studio from 9am front gate please**

**Tuesday 26 March – Year 5 showcase of Greek learning to parents – time tbc**  
**Thursday 28 March – Wear a hat day – raising money for brain tumour research**  
**Thursday 28 March – PTFA cake sale at 3.15pm**  
**Thursday 28 March – End of Term 4**  
**Monday 15 April – Start of Term 5**  
**Friday 19 April – Parent help with gardening from 1.30pm**  
**Tuesday 23 April – Netball vs Bysing Wood – home**  
**Monday 29 April – Reports sent home**  
**Monday 29 April – Netball vs Hernhill – away**  
**Tuesday 7 May – Netball Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed – away**  
**Monday 13 May – 16 May – Year 6 SATs tests**  
**Monday 13 May – Netball Boughton-under-Blean – away**  
**Tuesday 21 May – Harry Potter World – Year 6**  
**Friday 24 May – End of Term 5**  
**Monday 3 June – Start of Term 6**  
**Friday 7 June – Non uniform day and bottle donations for summer fair**  
**Tuesday 11 June – Parents/Carers Consultations – 3.30pm – 5.30pm**  
**Friday 14 June – Non uniform day and chocolate donations for summer fair**  
**Friday 14 June – PTFA Summer Fair**  
**Thursday 20 June – Parents/Carers Consultations – 4.30pm – 8pm**  
**Thursday 27 June – Sports Day**  
**W/C 1 July – Transition Week – all schools on Thursday 4 July**  
**Wednesday 10 July – Year 6 production**  
**Thursday 11 July – Year 6 production**  
**Thursday 18 July – Year 6 Leavers Celebration – St Alphege Church**  
**Friday 19 July – End of Term**  
**Monday 22 July – SDD**  
**Tuesday 23 July - SDD**